

Message Text

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O R 312158Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO HICOMTERPACIS

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

CINCPACREP GUAM

TTPI

UNCLAS STATE 216094

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, TQ

SUBJECT:PALAU STATUS REFERENDUM

REF: STATE 204507 DTG 172139Z AUG 76

FOR ACTING HICOM ACTION, STATUS LNO INFO

1. JULY 30 ISSUE OF TT ADMINISTRATION PUBLICATION "EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT NOTES" CONTAINS ARTICLE ON PALAU REFERENDUM SCHEDULED FOR LATE SEPTEMBER ON WHETHER PALAU SHOULD CONDUCT SEPARATE POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH USG. ARTICLE STATES THAT "REPORTS FROM PALAU INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGIRMIDOL INDICATE THAT THERE WILL BE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT TASK
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FORCE AND THE EDUCATION DEPT IN ORDER TO EDUCATE THE PEOPLE

FULLY ON THE ISSUES BEFORE THE SEPT REFERENDUM".

2. AS STATED REFTTEL USG IS NOT RPT NOT PREPARED UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES TO ACCEDE TO SEPARATE STATUS TALKS WITH PALAU AND USG WILL NOT BE BOUND BY RESULTS OF SUCH REFERENDUM. THIS REFERENDUM HAS BEEN GENERATED BY UNILATERAL PALAUAN INITIATIVE WITHOUT PRIOR AGREEMENT WITH USG AND IN FACE OF REITERATED USG OPPOSITION TO SEPARATE TALKS.

3. NEVERTHELESS USG DOES NOT WISH TO APPEAR TO BE DENYING PALAUANS NORMAL POLITICAL FREEDOMS AND WILL NOT TRY TO PREVENT REFERENDUM FROM TAKING PLACE. WE CONSIDER IT NECESSARY AND PROPER, HOWEVER, THAT NO ELEMENT OF TT ADMINISTRATION TAKE ANY ACTION TO ASSIST, FACILITATE OR SUBSIDIZE THAT REFERENDUM EXCEPT UPON REQUEST PER INSTRUCTIONS PARA 4 BELOW.

4. THEREFORE PURSUANT TO USG POLICY POSITION PASSED TO PALAUAN LEADERSHIP BY LNO PER REFTTEL, ACTING HICOM IS REQUESTED TO INFORM THAT LEADERSHIP INCLUDING SPEAKER OF LEGISLATURE THAT TT ADMINISTRATION INCLUDING ALL ITS SUBORDINATE ELEMENTS CONCERNED (A) WILL NOT PERMIT ANY PALAU DISTRICT TT EMPLOYEES TO CARRY OUT ANY EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES RELATIVE TO THIS REFERENDUM EXCEPT ONLY IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FROM PALAU LEGISLATURE AND ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS FOR TIME SO SPENT, (B) WILL BE REIMBURSED FOR ANY FACILITATIVE SERVICES REQUESTED (E.G., LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, PRINTING, SUPPLIES) AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 6 OF PDL LAW CALLING FOR REFERENDUM, AND (C) TT PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION WILL PERMIT TT CONTROLLED PALAU RADIO STATION TO BE USED BY PALAUAN LEADERSHIP TO INFORM LOCAL POPULACE ABOUT REFERENDUM INCLUDING BOTH PRO AND CON VIEWS. AT SAME TIME TT ADMIN PERSONNEL IN PALAU WILL UTILIZE LOCAL MEDIA AS REQUIRED TO ENSURE THAT PALAU POPULACE IS ADEQUATELY AND DIRECTLY INFORMED AS TO USG POLICY AS STATED FIRST SENTENCE PARA 2 ABOVE.

5. DOTA CONCURS ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE CONVEYED BY ACTING HICOM TO DISTAD PALAU.

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